

## REMARKS

The present preliminary amendment is intended to amend the claims and to place the present application in better condition for examination. Favorable consideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

5           The specification has been amended to include related application information. No new matter has been added.

          Originally filed claims 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 17, 20, and 22 were written in multiply-dependent format. Claims 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 17, 20, and 22 have now been amended to singly-dependent form in order to reduce claim fees.

10       The amendments do not relate to patentability of the originally filed claims.

          New claims 25 - 32 have been added.

          New claim 25 is a method claim corresponding to originally filed apparatus claim 23. New claim 25 is supported, *inter alia*: by Figs. 6A - 6F and Fig. 10 and the descriptions thereof in the specification; and by originally filed  
15       claim 23.

          New claim 26 depends from new claim 25, adding limitations from originally filed claim 1. New claim 26 is supported, *inter alia*: by Figs. 2, 3, 5A, 5B, 6A - 6F, and 10, and the descriptions thereof in the specification; by page 4, lines 24 - 31 of the specification; and by originally filed claim 1.

20       New claim 27 depends from new claim 26, adding limitations from originally filed claim 2. New claim 27 is supported, *inter alia*: by Figs. 5A and 5B and the descriptions thereof in the specification; by page 5, lines 1 and 2 of the specification; and by originally filed claim 2.

          New claim 28 depends from new claim 26, adding limitations from  
25       originally filed claim 5. New claim 28 is supported, *inter alia*: by Figs. 5A and 5B and the descriptions thereof in the specification; by page 5, lines 10 - 12 of the specification; and by originally filed claim 5.

          New claim 29 depends from new claim 25, adding limitations from originally filed claim 14. New claim 29 is supported, *inter alia*: by Figs. 6E and  
30       6F and the descriptions thereof in the specification; by Fig. 10; by page 6, lines 18 - 26 of the specification; and by originally filed claim 14.

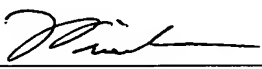
New claim 30 depends from new claim 25, adding limitations from originally filed claim 4. New claim 30 is supported, *inter alia*: by page 5, lines 7 - 9 of the specification; and by originally filed claim 4.

5 New claim 31 depends from new claim 25, adding limitations from originally filed claim 7. New claim 31 is supported, *inter alia*: by page 5, lines 16 - 29 of the specification; and by originally filed claim 7.

New claim 32 depends from new claim 31, adding limitations from originally filed claim 8. New claim 32 is supported, *inter alia*: by page 5, line 30 to page 6, line 2 of the specification; and by originally filed claim 8.

10 In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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